

ANTELOPE VALLEY ILLEGAL DUMPING TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

September 11, 2013

Fire Station No. 129, Training Center
42110 6th Street West
Lancaster, CA 93534

The meeting was chaired by Doug Burgis and Christine Borzaga, who called the meeting to order at 3:10 pm

Self-introductions

- Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

Checking Account – Doug Burgis

- Reported that AVIDTF had \$31,816 in August and has \$26,816 as of today.
- The difference of \$5,000 was paid to Curiosity Quest for the DVD production.

Illegal Dumping – David Coscia

- Reported that for the Antelope Valley: in June there were 14 cases, in July there were 18 cases, and in August there were 19 cases, for a total of 51 cases for the three month period.

Subcommittee Report – Christine Borzaga

- Signs stating “no dumping” may be made available for private property owners; the Subcommittee is investigating costs for different options
- The Subcommittee is working to establish a partnership with Crime Stoppers; this would include developing a public outreach campaign for Crime Stoppers which may use advertising on buses and at bus stops in the Antelope Valley.

Adopt-A-Highway Presentation – Christine Borzaga and Doug Burgis

- Presented a certificate of appreciation to Ms. Allaire Koslo, one of the owners of the Historic Rock Inn located in Lake Hughes.
- She has been removing debris from along the roads in Lake Hughes for about 12 years.
- She prefers the orange bags which have the motto “Care for California” on them. She stated that the Adopt-A-Highway program is definitely a benefit to the community.

Curiosity Quest – Dave Campbell

- Reported that the video should be finished by the end of September with the premiere opening event with a tentative date of November 13.
- The rough draft was reviewed. Several scenes were reshot on September 4. A section which explains the role of the AVIDTF was added. Copies of the DVD will be provided to local schools in the future.

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Free Dump Day at Lancaster Landfill – David Coscia

- Reported that the flyers were mailed to town councils and libraries in the unincorporated areas in August.
- The Local Trash Talk newsletter also included an article on the free dump day and that was mailed in early September.

Hinterculture – Ms. Karyl Newman and Ms. Larissa Nickel

- Presentation made regarding their art group, DEHSART. They received a grant from AVIDTF in the past.
- They take photos of interesting illegal dump sites. At the sites, they make sculptures from the surrounding debris. For each site, they create a slogan.
- At the meeting, they accepted votes for the most interesting site. The winning site and slogan will be announced.
- The project may be found on Facebook and via a website, DEHSART.com.

Question & Answers

What is LaCoMax? It is a free website through Public Works which connects people who have something they wish to get rid of with someone who will pick it up for free.

Public Works has a smartphone application for iPhones for reporting illegal dumping. When will the application be available for Android phones? The Information Technology Division at Public Works is working on it. No completion date has been announced, but may be completed by the end of the year.

Doug Burgis reported that the Quartz Hill Town Council is applying for a Community Preparedness Grant. If it receives the grant, it will receive \$15,000 to purchase equipment over 3 years. The town council will establish a pilot program.

Hinterculture is looking to advertise using either billboards and/or Metrolink.

There is an upcoming bicycle ride known as the Tour de Turtle. The ride benefits a children's camp known as the Painted Turtle. Participants have their choice of several rides. The ride will be held on October 19 in Lake Hughes.

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Who is citing people for burning trash? AVQMD is doing that. A meeting was to be held recently but was cancelled. The meeting is to be rescheduled prior to the October meeting of the AVIDTF.

Doug Burgis reported that he had heard that two men were recently arrested for illegal dumping and he asked if anyone knew what resulted. After checking on it, Sheriff Brian Hawksley and District Attorney David Campbell provided some information. The two men were arrested by sheriffs who were patrolling the area around the off-road area in Quartz Hill. The men were in a rented U-Haul truck and were seen emptying the vehicle at the area. The men were arrested and the truck was impounded. The men were cited for two misdemeanors for violations of the public health code.

Next Meeting – October 9, 2013